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Although most American botanists have been content to follow DeCandolle in holding the American tree to be only a variety, it is perhaps fully evident to many of those who have observed the living trees and herbarium specimens closely that they are wonderfully distinct in general aspect, in the habit and form of the leaves, and the size, form and taste of the fruit. The leaves of the European tree are noticeably more erect than in the American. The latter has its leaves mostly pointed at the base; while in the type they are chiefly rounded or occasionally with a heart-shaped base; moreover, as observed by DeCandolle, the European tree has a peculiar stellate tomentum on the under surface, present at least during early maturity, and in some instances much later in the season; a character which I believe is not found in the American tree. The much smaller, sweeter, and somewhat oily fruit of our tree is also in contrast with the three to four times larger and somewhat acerb fruit of the wild European plant.

Employing, therefore, the earliest name identifiable with our Chestnut, I would propose that it be called *Castanea dentata* (Marsh.)=*Fagus Castanea dentata*, Marshall (1785)=*C. vesca*, Gært. var. *Americana*, Michx. f. (1810)=*C. vulgaris*, Lam., var. *Americana*, A. DC. (1864) *C. sativa*, Mill., var. *Americana*, Sarg. (1889.)

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***Stipa Richardsonii*, Link, and *Stipa Richardsonii*, Gray.**

BY F. LAMSON-SCRIBNER.

(PLATE CXXVII).

In the second edition of the Manual, Dr. Gray described a grass under *Stipa Richardsonii*, Link, and this has been followed in all the later editions and in Coulter's Manual of the Rocky Mountain Flora. I am convinced, however, that Gray's plant is entirely distinct from Link's, and proposed in Macoun's Catalogue of Canadian Plants (Vol. v., p. 390) that it be named *S. Macounii*, my first specimens having been received from Prof. John Macoun, the well-known Canadian botanist. The true *Stipa*

Richardsonii, Link, is a more western species, not yet found east of the Rocky Mountain region. These plants, as understood by me, are presented below.

Stipa Macounii, Scribner, Macoun Catalogue Can. Pl. v. p. 390;

Stipa Richardsonii, Gray (non Link), Man. 2d. ed. p. 249, 6th ed. p. 641; Coulter Man. Rocky Mt. Bot. p. 408, exclusive of locality (Montana) reference; *Oryzopsis Richardsonii*, Beal, Bot. Gaz. xv. p. 111.

Petitcodiac, N. B., North Shore of Lake Superior, Lake Mistassini, N. E. T., near Edmonton on the Saskatchewan, and northerly to the Lesser Slave Lakes (Macoun Cat. iv. p. 190); Pleasant Mountain near Sebago Lake, Maine, Mt. Marcy, N. Y. (Gray Man. 6th ed. p. 641). I have it from North Conway, N. H. (C. E. Faxon), Mt. Desert, Maine (E. L. Rand), and from the Lake Superior region.

In this plant the empty glumes are sub-equal, broadly obtuse or very abruptly short pointed, 4-4.5 mm. long, the first broader than the second, slightly exceeding the flowering glume, which is rather thinly clothed with short hairs and is supported on a very short obtuse callus. Awn 8-11 mm. long. The panicle, which is 4-12 cm. long, closely resembles that of *Stipa Mongolica*.

It will be noted that this grass has been referred to *Oryzopsis*, the specific name *Richardsonii* being held under the impression that it was Richardson's plant. There is no clear cut line separating *Stipa* from *Oryzopsis*, and artificial characters are resorted to in making the division. In both genera the awn is articulated with the flowering glume, and both have a distinct callus at the base of this glume, but in one the awn is deciduous (sometimes caducous), and the callus is very short and blunt; in the other the awn is more persistent and the more prominent callus is sharp pointed. With such a limitation the border line is pretty certain to remain debatable ground, and to pronounce whether our plant is a *Stipa* or an *Oryzopsis* belongs rather to that indefinable faculty or intuition which comes with long observation and much experience in sorting material in classification. If placed in *Oryzopsis* this species must become *O. Macounii*, as the *Richardsonii*, Gray, is not tenable.

Stipa Richardsonii, Link, Hort. Berol. II. p. 245 (1833); Trin.

& Rupr. Stipac. p. 57; Scribner Bot. Gat. xi. p. 171; *Stipa Richardsonii*, var. *major*, Macoun Cat. Can. Pl. iv. p. 191.

Western North America (Richardson, Borgeau), Yellowstone National Park (Tweedy), Rocky Mountains, at Morley and westward to Donald in the Columbian Valley (Macoun), Montana (Scribner No. 341).

In this species the more widely spreading panicle is 15-20 cm. long, spikelets 7-9 mm., and awn 12-20 mm. The empty glumes are acute, as is also the callus. The differential characters given by Trinius and Ruprecht, who had evidently seen Link's specimens, are as follows: *Paniculæ paucifloræ radiis inferioribus binis, divaricato-patentibus, inferne nudis, versus apicem spiculas 2-6 gerentibus*; *glumis acutis subæqualibus (superiore tantum ½ linea brevior), valvulam 2-3 lineam hirsutam æquantibus*; *arista subpersistente, torta, geniculata, 8-10 lineali*; *antheris barbulatis*.

The italics are as in original. The empty glumes are described as acute, and the measurements given for the parts of the spikelet apply only to the western plant.

DESCRIPTION OF PLATE CXXVII.

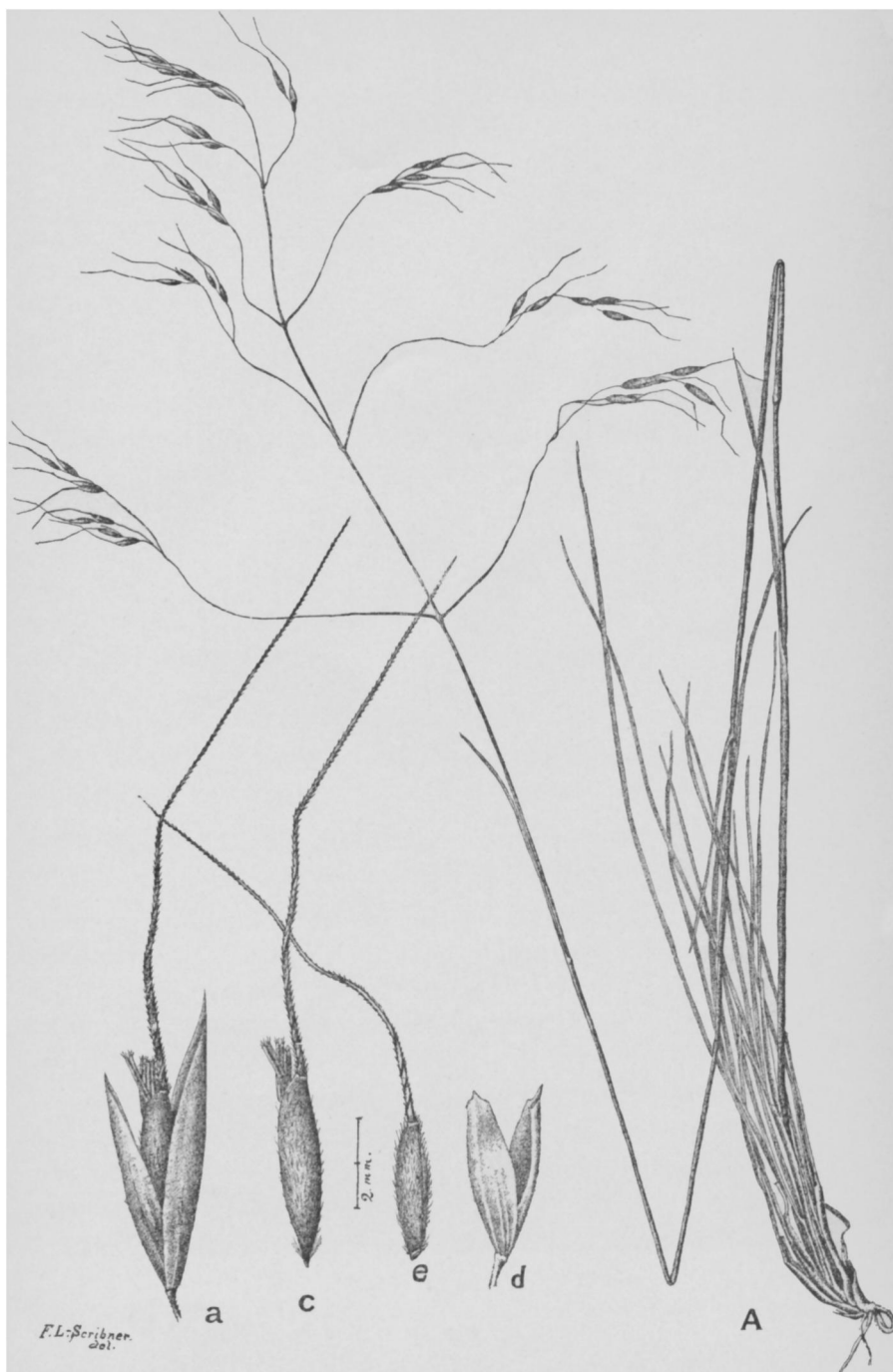
- A. Entire plant.
- a. Spikelet from same.
- c. The same with the empty glumes removed.
- d. Empty glumes from a spikelet of *Stipa Macounii*.
- e. Floret of same.

Reviews of Foreign Literature.

Monographie der Gattung Caltha. E. Huth. (Helios, Monat. Mittheil. Gesammptg. Naturwissenschaften, ix. 55-77; t. i.).

The author recognizes nine species, the following American: *C. sagittata*, Cav. with var. *latifolia*, *C. appendiculata*, Pers., with var. *Chilensis*, and *C. dionæifolia* from South America; *C. leptosepala*, DC., with vars. *rotundifolia* and *Howellii*, and *C. palustris*, L. with vars. *flabellifolia*, *arctica*, *parnassiiifolia*, *asarifolia* and *typica* from North America.

As to the treatment of the North American plants, *C. leptosepala*, var. *rotundifolia* is based on a specimen from Dr. Gray, collected in the Rocky Mountains and preserved in the Vienna



STIPA RICHARDSONII, LINK, AND *STIPA RICHARDSONII*, GRAY. F. Lamson-Scribner.